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Applicant:

Gary K. Michelson

For:

THREADED FRUSTO-CONICAL  
INTERBODY SPINAL FUSION  
IMPLANTS

Examiner:

Brown, M.

Art Unit:

3301

Atty's Docket No.:

P-12552

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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AUG 21 1997  
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REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Approved  
for  
entry  
H.B.

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated June 12, 1997, Paper Number 6, in which the Examiner indicated that the original claims and newly added claims were improperly numbered in Applicant's reply to the Office Action dated September 27, 1996, Paper No 2. Accordingly, this amendment supersedes the amendment filed on March 27, 1997 and is responsive to both Office Actions.

In the Office Action dated September 27, 1996, the Examiner indicated that claims 22-24, 46-48, 66-68, 90-92 and 97 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1-11, 13-21, 25-34, 36-45, 49-55, 57-65, 69-78, 80-89 and 93-96 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 4,961,740